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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No.	Filing Date	First Named Inventor	Attorney Docket No.
09/996,184	11/28/2001	Avila	5181
Art Unit	Paper Number	Examiner	Date Mailed
1615		L. Di Nola Baron	11/4/2002
Title			
Polyalkylene Glycol Viscosity-Enhancing Polymeric Formulations			

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

**REPLY**

12/10/2002 15:59 FAX 617 252 7977  
In response to the Office Action mailed on May 7, 2002, Applicant respectfully submits this Reply with amendment and remarks. Applicant also requests concurrently a three-month extension of time to extend the period for timely submission of this Reply to Thursday, November 7, 2002. Applicant respectfully requests that this application be reconsidered in light of the amendments and remarks set out below.

**AMENDMENT**

In the claims:

Please amend claims 1, 4, 9, and 14 to read as follows (a mark-up version of this amendment is attached in appendix) and add new claims 16-20.

- SUB  
B1  
A1
1. (Amended) A polymeric composition comprising a mixture of
- a) at least one polymerizable macromer comprising at least one polyalkylene glycol (PAG) region having a first viscosity, and
  - b) at least one PAG-interacting polymer (PIP) having a second viscosity,
- wherein the mixture has a viscosity greater than the sum of the first and the second viscosities.
- A2
4. (Amended) The composition of claim 1, wherein the macromer further comprises biodegradable regions.
- A3
9. (Amended) A method for forming a biocompatible, flexible, bioadhesive gel comprising
- a) forming an aqueous solution comprising a mixture of

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